

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-30. (Canceled)

31. (New) A stream generation apparatus which generates a stream that includes (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) pixel data of a coded picture, said apparatus comprising:

a judgment unit operable to judge whether or not a first coded picture to which first information is added is a coded picture which corresponds to a reference B picture to be referable to when another coded picture is decoded, the first information being obtained by coding the command;

a coding unit operable to code, as second information, the same contents as the command shown by the first information when it is judged by said judgment unit that the first coded picture is the coded picture which corresponds to the reference B picture; and

a generation unit operable to generate the stream by adding the second information to a second coded picture which corresponds to an I picture or a P picture which follows the first coded picture in decoding order.

32. (New) A stream generation method of generating a stream that includes (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) pixel data of a coded picture, said method comprising:

judging whether or not a first coded picture to which first information is added is a coded picture which corresponds to a reference B picture to be referable to when another coded picture is decoded, the first information being obtained by coding the command;

coding, as second information, the same contents as the command shown by the first information when it is judged in said judging that the first coded picture is the coded picture which corresponds to the reference B picture; and

generating the stream by adding the second information to a second coded picture which

corresponds to an I picture or a P picture which follows the first coded picture in decoding order.

33. (New) A recording method of recoding, onto a computer-readable recording medium, (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) pixel data of a coded picture, said method comprising:

judging whether or not a first coded picture to which first information is added is a coded picture which corresponds to a reference B picture to be referable to when another coded picture is decoded, the first information being obtained by coding the command;

coding, as second information, the same contents as the command shown by the first information when it is judged in said judging that the first coded picture is the coded picture which corresponds to the reference B picture;

generating the stream by adding the second information to a second coded picture which corresponds to an I picture or a P picture which follows the first coded picture in decoding order; and

recording the stream onto the recording medium.

34. (New) A stream reproduction apparatus which reproduces a stream that is generated by the stream generation apparatus according to Claim 31, said stream reproduction apparatus comprising:

a specification unit operable to specify a coded picture to be decoded at a time of trick-play; and

a coded-picture decoding unit operable to decode only the coded picture specified by said specification unit,

wherein said coded-picture decoding unit includes:

a first decoding unit operable to definitely decode information in which the command is coded when information in which the command is coded is added to the coded picture,

a buffer management unit operable to manage a buffer depending on contents of the decoded command; and

a second decoding unit operable to decode the coded picture by referring to the reference picture held in the buffer when the coded picture to be decoded references another picture.

35. (New) A stream reproduction method of reproducing a stream that is generated by the stream generation apparatus according to Claim 31, said method comprising:

specifying a coded picture to be decoded at a time of trick-play; and

decoding only the coded picture specified by said specification step,

wherein said decoding includes:

definitely decoding information in which the command is coded when information in which the command is coded is added to the coded picture,

managing a buffer depending on contents of the decoded command; and

decoding the coded picture by referring to the reference picture held in the buffer when the coded picture to be decoded references another picture.

36. (New) A reproduction system comprising: (a) a computer-readable recording medium on which a stream to be reproduced by said reproduction system is recorded, the stream including (i) information obtained by coding a command for managing a buffer that holds a decoded picture as a reference picture, and (ii) pixel data of a coded picture; and (b) a stream reproduction apparatus which reads out the stream from said computer-readable recording medium and reproduces the stream,

wherein in the stream recorded on said computer-readable recording medium

when a first coded picture to which first information is added is a coded picture which corresponds to a reference B picture to be referable to when another coded picture is decoded, the first information being obtained by coding the command

a second information is added only to a second coded picture which corresponds to an I picture or a P picture which follows the first coded picture in decoding order, the second information being generated by coding the same contents as the command,

said stream reproduction apparatus which reads out the stream from said computer-readable recording medium and reproduces the stream, said stream reproduction apparatus includes:

a specification unit operable to specify a coded picture to be decoded at a time of trick-play; and

a coded-picture decoding unit operable to decode only the coded picture specified by said specification unit,

wherein said coded-picture decoding unit includes:

a first decoding unit operable to definitely decode information in which the command is coded when information in which the command is coded is added to the coded picture;

a buffer management unit operable to manage a buffer depending on contents of the decoded command; and

a second decoding unit operable to decode the coded picture by referring to the reference picture held in the buffer when the coded picture to be decoded references another picture.